

THE
INDIANA MEDAL
1816-1916

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THE INDIANA MEDAL

Commemorating the Completion of
a Century of Statehood
1816-1916

Made Under the Direction of
THE INDIANA HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

By
JANET SCUDDER

Indianapolis
1916

COPYRIGHT NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTEEN
BY THE INDIANA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

SAMUEL M. RALSTON
FRANK B. WYNN
HARLOW LINDLEY
JAMES A. WOODBURN
CHARLES W. MOORES
SAMUEL M. FOSTER
JOHN CAVANAUGH
CHARITY DYE
LEW M. O'BANNON

CHARLES W. MOORES
FLORENCE H. FITCH
CARL H. LIEBER
LEE BURNS

Medal Committee

THERE have been struck nine
hundred and eighteen numbered
proofs of this medal of which this is

Number 73

Samuel M. Catston.

Governor of Indiana

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The Story of the Medal

TO design this commemorative medal the Indiana Historical Commission chose the sculptor, Janet Scudder, a daughter of Indiana whose reputation is international.

Miss Scudder was born in the city of Terre Haute. She studied at several of the important art academies of the United States and in Paris and with Taft and Macmonnies. Notable examples of her work are the Frog Fountain in the Metropolitan Museum, New York, the Fighting Boys Fountain in the Chicago Art Institute, medallion portraits at the Musée du Luxembourg in Paris and in the John Heron Art Institute at Indianapolis and the façade of the Brooklyn Museum of Arts and Science.

While engaged in designing the Indiana medal, Miss Scudder has also been at work on a medal for the United States Government, to be presented to

the South American Commissioners of mediation between this country and Mexico.

The Indiana medal, which is done in delicate low relief, shows on the obverse side an allegorical representation of the baby state of 1816 being welcomed to the Union, while in the distance are seen the historic little state house at Corydon and the Constitution Elm, both of which are still standing.

On the other side is the State Seal. The origin of the design for this seal is obscure. The first constitution provided for a state seal, and in the House Journal of 1816 the design is defined as:

“A forest and a woodman felling a tree, a buffalo leaving the forest and fleeing through the plain to a distant forest, and the sun setting in the west, with the word ‘Indiana.’”

The design that was made has been generally understood as showing a rising sun with the buffalo fleeing to the

west. It is not known who designed this seal nor is there any record that it was ever officially adopted. The sum of one hundred dollars was appropriated by the legislature, on December 13, 1816, to pay for a seal and press. On a slavery petition on file at Washington, dated 1802, is an impression of the seal of Indiana Territory which has the same general character.

In modeling the seal for the medal Miss Scudder has followed the general design, which has been so familiar for a century, but she has refined its crudities and made a seal that is a thing of beauty.

The medallic art has been happily defined as the link between sculpture and painting. While the history of coins and medals is inseparable, the medal as we think of it to-day is an artistic production intended for a memorial piece and not used as currency.

The coinage of Greece and Rome, beautiful in design and representing the highest art of the day, while often having a truly medallic character, was

intended for general circulation, and their "Medallions," which were so large as to have been evidently intended to be used solely as records of personal achievement, seldom had the commemorative character of the medal proper.

The modern development of the medal grew out of the wonderful artistic renaissance in Italy, from which so many forms of our highest art derive their inspiration.

It is in France that the medal as it is now understood has been brought to the greatest perfection. There it is used to commemorate public events, to record the deeds of distinguished men and also for important private celebrations. Many of the greatest artists of that country have taken pride in the production of such medals, some of which are regarded as artistic masterpieces.

All of the early medals were cast, but in the sixteenth century the use of dies began, which make possible a much greater number of fine copies. At first

it was necessary for a medalist to cut by hand the steel dies with which they are struck, but in 1839 a quite wonderful machine was invented and first exhibited in Paris that will perfectly render in steel the work modeled by the sculptor on a larger scale in wax or some similar plastic substance. This machine, retaining every characteristic of the artist's model, has greatly simplified and improved the art of medal making and has made possible the extensive modern revival of the art.

The best examples of the medals of to-day are the result of the exercise of as great an artistic ability as is required for any other form of art. While they may vary greatly in treatment, they are marked by beauty and imagination and they reflect faithfully the spirit of their time. In this form of imperishable bronze artists are preserving for posterity records that, as time goes by, will be treasured more and more.

—LEE BURNS.

The Beginning of the State

1679-1816

ONE hundred years ago Indiana was admitted to the Union. It was the sixth state to be added to the original thirteen and one of five states carved from the vast and fertile region of wilderness and prairie lying between the Great Lakes and the Ohio River that had been earlier known as the Northwest Territory.

The first record that we have of white men within the present boundaries of Indiana was when in December, 1679, LaSalle, a French explorer and trader, with a band of twenty-eight men, traveling by canoe, crossed the portage path from the St. Joseph River to the Kankakee near the site of the present city of South Bend. The French had established settlements in Canada on the St. Lawrence River seventy years before and their missionaries, explorers and traders had made

visits to other parts of the rich territory surrounding the Great Lakes and the rivers of the west. For nearly a century thereafter the Ohio and Mississippi valleys were generally recognized as French territory.

The date of the first permanent settlement within what are now the boundaries of Indiana is not definitely known, but from the records of the Jesuit missionaries and fugitive accounts by French officers and traders it seems that the post on the Wabash at Vincennes must have been established very early in the eighteenth century.

The struggle between the English and French for possession of the Ohio valley and for the control of the valuable fur trade, which extended over many years, was ended by the treaty of 1763 when the French gave up this territory to the English.

After the outbreak of the American Revolution, Governor Patrick Henry of Virginia gave instructions to Colonel George Rogers Clark to

proceed with a little army of militia against the posts at Kaskaskia and Vincennes. The final success of this expedition in February, 1779, was one of the important achievements of the American army and added a vast dominion to the territory of the Colonies. When a treaty of peace was signed with the British in 1783, the American possessions were bounded on the west by the Mississippi River and on the north by the Great Lakes. The western territory was recognized as being under the control of Virginia, whose troops had captured it from the English, but in 1784 Virginia ceded it to the United States.

By the ordinance of 1787 Congress provided a government for this Northwest Territory and also enacted that out of it there should be created not less than three nor more than five states, each of which was to be admitted to the Union when it could be shown to have at least 60,000 free inhabitants. Under this ordinance the first popular government was established within this

territory, to succeed the French and British military administrations in which the people had no voice.

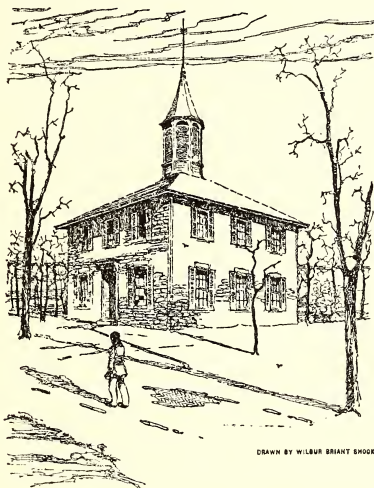
The creation of the first organized civil government within the boundaries of what is now the state of Indiana was when, in 1790, Winthrop Sargent, the acting governor, organized at Vincennes the County of Knox, a subdivision of the Northwest Territory larger than the present state of Indiana. But the distances between the settlements were so great and the exercise of even the simplest forms of government so difficult that plans for subdividing the Northwest Territory were soon advanced by William Henry Harrison, the delegate in Congress, and a law creating Indiana Territory was secured to take effect on the 4th of July, 1800.

This territory of Indiana, bounded on the south by the Ohio, on the west by the Mississippi and on the north by the Dominion of Canada, included territory that is now within the states of Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and

Minnesota. William Henry Harrison was appointed by the President, John Adams, to be the first territorial governor and the capital was established at Vincennes. According to the census of 1800 the population of the Territory was 6,550, of whom 929 lived at Clark's Grant on the Ohio, 2,497, mostly French, at Vincennes, and the rest along the Mississippi and other rivers and near the borders of Lake Michigan as far north as Mackinac.

Within the next few years considerable progress was made in the formation of a stable government, the arranging of treaties with the Indians, and the opening of lands for settlement. In 1809 Congress passed an act of separation dividing the territories of Indiana and Illinois. This left the town of Vincennes on the western boundary of the new Indiana Territory and a movement was soon started to locate the capital where it would be nearer to the geographical center. After a spirited contest, the little town of Corydon, the county seat of Harrison

County, was chosen in 1813 as the new capital. Corydon had been laid out five years before and boasted a court house



THE STATE HOUSE AT CORYDON

forty feet square built of blue limestone.

Numerous petitions were presented to Congress asking that Indiana be made a state. The population had been

increasing rapidly, especially in the territory along the Ohio and lower Wabash Rivers and in the valley of the Whitewater. Many settlers were crossing from Kentucky and many were entering the territory from the upper waters of the Ohio. New towns were being laid out all the way along the southern border of the state, and a census taken in 1815 showed a population of 63,897, more than the minimum required for statehood by the ordinance of 1787.

On April 19, 1816, the President of the United States approved an enabling act providing for the admission of Indiana into the Union. The duty of naming the new state was left to its inhabitants. Its boundaries were the same as they are now. In accordance with this law, forty-three delegates were elected to a constitutional convention which met in Corydon on June 10th and was in session for eighteen working days. It contained such able men as Jonathan Jennings, the delegate in Congress from the territory, who

served as president of the convention and afterward as governor; James Noble and Robert Hanna, who became United States senators; Benjamin Parke, James Scott and John Johnson, afterward distinguished judges, and many other men of ability, including John Badollet, Dr. David H. Maxwell, John DePauw, Frederick Rappe and Jesse Holman. William Hendricks, the second governor of the state, was secretary of the convention.

The crowd of nearly fifty men seriously taxed the accommodations of the little village of Corydon. As it was the harvest season many members were anxious to get home and there was every inducement for the convention to complete its work as rapidly as possible. The sessions were first held in the little stone court house that had become the capitol as well, but when the sultry June days became too warm the convention met under the shade of a great tree near by, that became known as the Constitution Elm, and is now tenderly cared for because of the shel-

ter it gave to the founders of the state. The constitution as finally adopted was composed in part of portions of the



THE CONSTITUTION ELM
AT CORYDON

constitutions of Ohio, Kentucky and the United States, the material differences being in favor of a wider democracy. It was a creditable document in

every way. Its most notable innovation was the recognition which it contained of the duty of the state to educate all of its citizens, and Indiana was the first state to provide in its fundamental law for a general system of free education culminating in a university.

In accordance with the provisions of the new constitution, state and county elections were held in August, Jonathan Jennings being elected governor; Christopher Harrison, lieutenant governor, and William Hendricks, representative to Congress. The first session of the general assembly met at Corydon on November 4, 1816, chose James Noble and Waller Taylor to represent the new state in the United States Senate, elected minor state officers and judges as provided in the new constitution, and began the work of providing for a system of local laws. Indiana was formally admitted into the Union by a joint resolution of Congress approved December 11, 1816, and the life of the state began.

—LEE BURNS.

Some Milestones of the Century

1816-1916

- 1816—Indiana was admitted to the Union.
- 1818—By the "New Purchase" the central part of the state was acquired by treaties from the Indians and opened for settlement.
- 1819—The first state medical society was organized.
- 1820—The general assembly appointed a commission of ten men to locate a permanent capital of the state.
A stage line was opened from Vincennes to Louisville.
The legislature provided for a system of permanent roads in the settled portion of the state.
- 1822—The *Gazette*, the first newspaper in Indianapolis, was established.

1824—The state seminary (Indiana University) established by act of January 20, 1820, opened with ten pupils.

In November the capital was removed to Indianapolis.

A general system of township schools was established.

1825—Robert Owen began his remarkable experiment in community life at New Harmony. The first legislative appropriation was made for a state library.

1827—A survey of the National Road across Indiana was completed.

1828—A stage line was opened from Madison to Indianapolis. Hanover College was incorporated.

1830—The Michigan Road was begun, to connect the Ohio River at Madison with Lake Michigan.

1833—Wabash College was opened with twelve students under Caleb Mills.

- 1834—The boundary line was fixed between Indiana and Michigan. The State Bank of Indiana, a notable system of banks, was created by an act of the legislature.
- 1835—The Wabash and Erie canal was opened from Fort Wayne to Huntington.
- 1836—The last unorganized territory in Indiana was laid off into counties.
- 1837—Franklin College opened under the name of Indiana Baptist Manual Labor Institute.
- 1838—The Pottawattomies, the last Indian tribe in the state, were taken to a Kansas reservation.
- 1839—Indiana Asbury University, now DePauw University, opened with Bishop Simpson as president.
- 1840—St. Mary's-of-the-Woods established at Terre Haute.

- 1843—The cornerstone was laid at Notre Dame University.
- 1844—The state Institute for the Deaf and Dumb was opened at Indianapolis with sixteen pupils.
- 1846—Caleb Mills began his campaign for free schools.
Five regiments of Indiana volunteers for the Mexican War were mustered into service.
- 1847—The Institute for the Blind was opened at Indianapolis.
The railroad from Madison to Indianapolis was completed.
The Friends' Boarding School was established at Richmond; in 1859 it became Earlham College.
- 1848—The first telegraph office in the state was opened in Indianapolis.
- 1850—The first Union Station in America was begun in Indianapolis.
The constitutional convention met at Indianapolis.

- 1852—The first state fair was held in Military Park.
Gaslight was first used in Indianapolis.
- 1853—The free school system of Indiana was begun.
Moore's Hill College was organized.
- 1855—Northwestern Christian University, now Butler College, was located at Indianapolis.
- 1859—The first woman's club in America was organized at New Harmony.
- 1861—Oliver P. Morton became governor of Indiana.
In April the first Indiana troops in the Civil War were organized. The total number of soldiers furnished by Indiana in this war was 197,649.
- 1862—A federal prison was established at Camp Morton, Indianapolis, Colonel Richard Owen in charge.

1864—Street cars were first used in Indianapolis.

1870—The State Normal School was opened at Terre Haute.

1871—A government quartermaster's depot was established at Jeffersonville.

1874—Purdue University was opened. It had been authorized by the state in 1864 under the act of congress of 1862.

1877—The first telephones in Indiana were installed in Indianapolis.

1879—Plate glass was first successfully made in America at New Albany, by W. C. DePauw.

1883—Rose Polytechnic Institute was opened at Terre Haute.

1886—The use of natural gas began in central Indiana.

1888—Indianapolis began to use electric light.

The state house, Indianapolis, was completed.

- 1894—The first motor car in America was completed by Elwood Haynes, at Kokomo.
- 1898—The Indianapolis Monetary Commission made a notable report that greatly influenced national legislation.
- 1899—The development of the Indiana oil fields was begun.
- 1900—The first interurban car left Indianapolis.
- 1902—The John Herron Art Institute was opened.
The Soldiers' Monument, Indianapolis, was dedicated.
- 1903—The state established in Clark county a forestry reservation of 2,000 acres.
- 1904—The first union station in the country for interurban electric cars was built in Indianapolis.
- 1905—The Federal building, Indianapolis, was completed.
- 1910—The United States census estab-

lished the center of population
of the country at Bloomington.

1914—Long Hospital, a branch of the
state university, was opened at
Indianapolis.

1916—State-wide celebrations are be-
ing held of the centennial of In-
diana.

The Indiana Centennial

THE immediate purpose of the legislative assembly of 1915 in creating the Indiana Historical Commission was to insure an adequate observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the state. The commission is composed of Samuel M. Ralston, governor of Indiana, president; Frank B. Wynn, vice-president; Harlow Lindley, secretary, and James A. Woodburn, Charles W. Moores, Samuel M. Foster, John Cavanaugh, Charity Dye and Lew M. O'Bannon.

The funds at the disposal of the commission for promoting a state celebration, amounting to twenty thousand dollars only, were such as greatly to restrict its possibilities. The very necessity of the situation, however, became its virtue. Unable, even had it so wished, to provide a big celebration for the state, the commission undertook a course of action that has made the

Indiana Centennial observance unique. It went directly to the citizens of Indiana with the declaration that this was to be their celebration, the people's observance of the anniversary of their state.

Assuming that the state would respond to the appeal, the commission proceeded to outline a policy and to perfect a machinery that would make possible an observance truly state-wide. In the first place, it sounded the keynote of the celebration in three words—historical, educational, patriotic—deprecating anything that would tend to detract from a high civic consciousness. In the second place, it organized the state by counties and outlined a scheme of observance beginning in the townships and ending at the state capitol.

As a necessary preparation for the year's activities, work was early begun in the schools of the state by having an emphasis placed there upon Indiana history. The sequel to this was an impressive state-wide series of centennial

programs and observances in the schools, which performed the double purpose of getting the big idea in the minds of the children and, through them, of reaching the state at large.

The school and township celebrations of winter and early spring were followed by those of the counties, beginning in May and continuing through the summer and early fall. Each county was encouraged to act on its own initiative, and the result has been a variety of observances that is in itself a distinct contribution to the year.

Among the outstanding features is that of pageantry in which state and local history have been emphasized. Throughout the state the home-coming idea has been dominant, and in keeping with all, such an exhibition of heirlooms and pioneer relics has been made as to make clear the need of a great state historical museum.

Celebrations of more than local importance were arranged for Bloomington, the seat of the state university, where a pageant was given to show the

rise of education. Similar pageants were arranged for Vincennes, the early center of historic interest; for Corydon, the scene of the beginnings of statehood, and for Indianapolis, the capital.

But the purposes of the commission have been more than merely celebrative. It has encouraged the collecting of local historical material, the marking of historic spots, and the promotion of centennial memorials, one of the best of which is the state park system.

The objects of this state-wide celebration are being realized. Incentive is being given to state loyalty. A new civic consciousness is being felt. A better knowledge and a more intelligent appreciation of our state, both past and present, is resulting. The movement has been an awakening force in city and community loyalty; a promoter of closer co-operation in city and community life; an impetus to further progress; an inspiration toward a higher type of public service.

—WALTER C. WOODWARD.

THE GROWTH OF INDIANA
AS SHOWN BY THE CENSUS

1800	6,550
1810	24,520
1820	147,178
1830	343,031
1840	685,866
1850	988,416
1860	1,350,428
1870	1,680,637
1880	1,978,301
1890	2,192,404
1900	2,516,462
1910	2,700,876











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